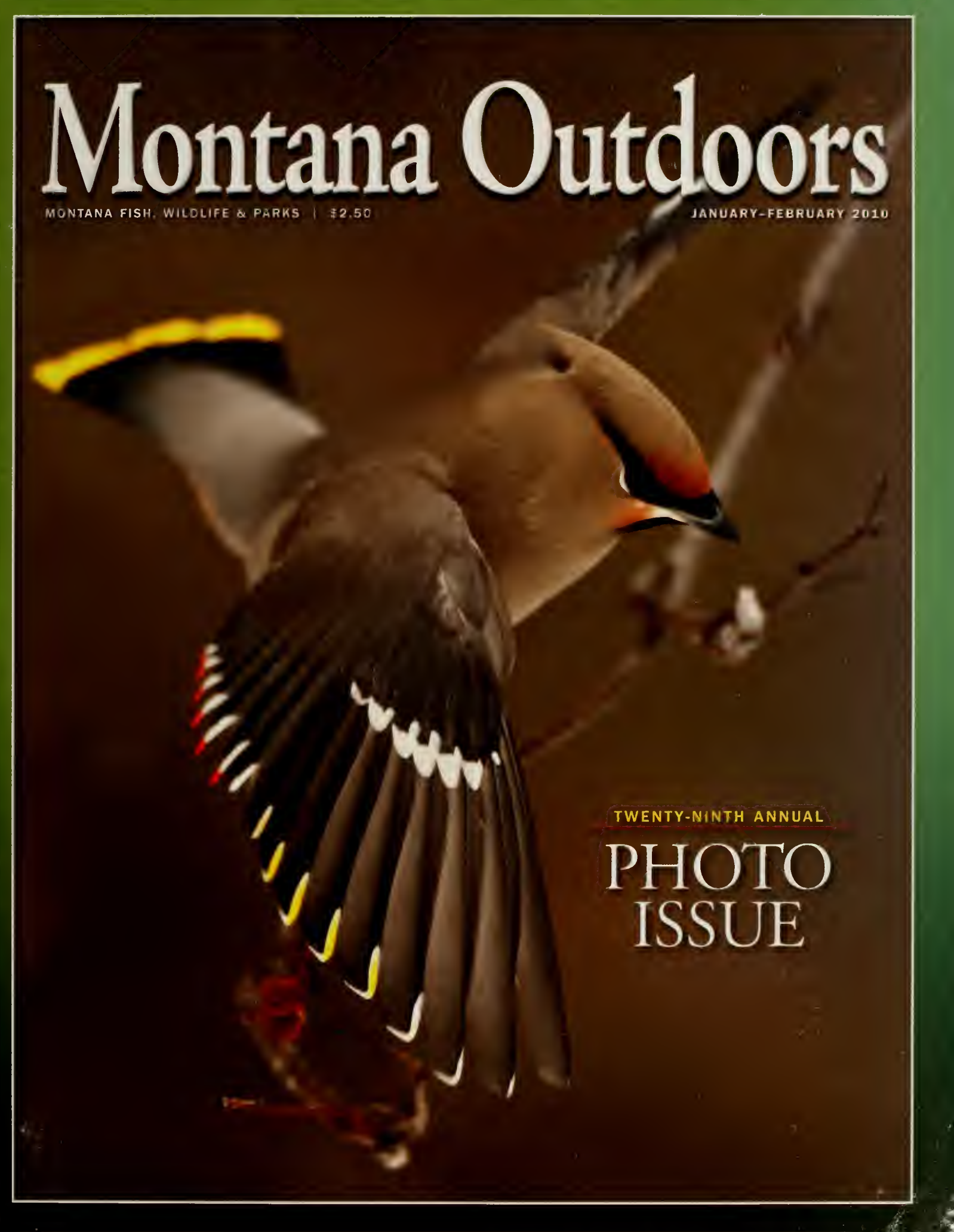
Montana Outdoors

MONTANA FISH, WILDLIFE & PARKS | $2.50

JANUARY–FEBRUARY 2010



TWENTY-NINTH ANNUAL

PHOTO ISSUE

Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks

Best Magazine: 2005, 2006, 2008
Runner-up: 2007, 2009
Awarded by the Association for Conservation Information

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DONALD M. JONES
Above: Sandhill crane

PETE BENGEYFIELD
Right: Bugling bull elk at sunrise

TIM CHRISTIE
Cover: Bohemian waxwing

Montana Outdoors

JANUARY–FEBRUARY 2010

It's the most exciting—and difficult—thing he does.

Each fall our art director Luke Duran is faced with the enviable yet heartbreaking task of designing the *Montana Outdoors* photo issue. Enviable because he gets to look through roughly 1,200 exceptional photographs. Heartbreaking because he can use only 70 or so.

Luke's work on the issue begins in September, when he puts out a call to our long list of professional photographers. He explains that we want their very best images and cautions that shots must have been taken in Montana. (We make an exception for Yellowstone National Park because part of it sits within our state border.) Then he waits.

Over the next six weeks, more than 100 CDs containing delightful and artistic images arrive in the mail. From my office I can hear Luke *ooh* and *aah* as he scrolls through some particularly gorgeous shots. "You have to come look at this one," he'll call out, and I'll drop everything ro have a peek at yet another knockout photo.

For several weeks, Luke sifts through the JPEG files, picking out the best of the best and then putting them together to create the photo issue. He does a lot of arranging and rearranging, because each image must work on its own as well as with several others as part of the two-page spreads.

Sadly, many wonderful shots don't make the cut. Some aren't sharp enough for magazine reproduction. Others contain subject matter that doesn't fit the *Montana Outdoors* format. The toughest calls are when we have to pass on a breathtaking landscape or marvelous wildlife shot because it's too similar to others appearing elsewhere in the issue. We sit on some of these for a few months, hoping to work them into another issue of the magazine. But most we send back to the photographers with our regrets—and our encouragement to try again next year.

We can hardly wait to see what they send us.

—Editor

ROLAND TAYLOR
Above: Sunset on Lost Lake, south of Great Falls, with the Highwood Mountains in the background

HUNTER D'ANTUONO
Left: Dew on an aspen leaf

CAROL POLICH
Archer: Shooting star

JOSHUA MARK THOMAS
Above: Mallard hen

TOM REICHNER
Opposite: Whitetail buck on the National Bison Range

DEE LINNELL BLANK
Top: Blanketflower

BOB MARTINKA
Middle: Blue-eyed darner

JIM STREETER
Bottom: Water lily

NICK FUCCI
Opposite: Bald-faced hornet hive in the Swan Valley

BARRY AND CATHY BECK
Above: Rainbow trout

PAM BARBOUR
Right: West Fork Rock Creek near Philipsburg

CHUCK HANEY
Left: Common snipe in Lazy Creek near Whitefish

CINDY GOEDDEL
Below: Northern river otter eating a Yellowstone cutthroat trout

ERIK PETERSEN
Above: Bighorn sheep above the Lamar Valley

MICHAEL HARING
Top: Northern river otters

MARK N. ROBERTS
Above: American robin in April snow

GARY KRAMER
Photo at left: Canada geese

W. STEVE SHERMAN
Left: Reflection of Meade Hotel at Bannack State Park

TODD KAPLAN
Below: Twisted tree overlooking Yellowstone River State Park

JASON SAVAGE
Above: Pronghorns along the Missouri River near Craig

DEBRA KRANTZ
Right: Fuller's teasel

RODNEY SCHLECHT
Top: Short-eared owls

JUDY WANTULOK
Above: Mating western grebes running across a lake surface

FRANCIS AND JANICE BERGQUIST
Left: Male sharp-tailed grouse in courtship display

ALAN G. NELSON
Below: Ferruginous hawk with nestlings

JAIME JOHNSON
Left: Grizzly bears in Yellowstone National Park

NORMAN JACOBSON
Below: Black bear at Big Arm State Park on Flathead Lake

RANDY SMITH
Bottom: Black bear cub and sow

JOHN WINNIE, JR.
Top: Sundew with trapped mosquito

JEREMIE HOLLMAN
Above: Garter snake

CRAIG AND LIZ LARCOM
Top left: Ring-billed gull

ZACK CLOTHIER
Top right: Yellow-bellied marmot on the Beartooth All-American Road near Cooke City

RANDY SMITH
Above: Painted turtles and hooded merganser

TONY BYNUM
Mountain goats in
Glacier National Park

SAM AND STEPH ZIERKE

Red fox

DUŠAN SMETANA
Below Foxhounds and rider
west of Belgrade

JOHN LAMBING
Above: Muddy Creek Canyon along the Rocky Mountain Front west of Choteau

JEFF VAN TINE
Opposite top: Forest fire at MacDonald Pass near Helena

MICHAEL McCANN
Opposite bottom: Backlit ice

JESSE LEE VARNADO
Opposite: Rocky Mountain parnassian butterfly

MICHAEL McCANN
Left: Fall grasses

KEN ARCHER
Below: Coyote

MOE WITSCHARD
Above: Rocky Mountain Front near Choteau

JIM ELDUEN
Left: Truck on U.S. Highway 87 north of Billings

KENTON ROWE
Right: Bull elk and ponderosa pine

CALVIN BEBEE
Opposite top: Fox family

BECCA WOOD
Opposite middle:
Striped skunk family

DEA VOGEL
Opposite bottom:
Bobcat family

TOM REICHNER
Top: Killdeer

BOB MARTINKA
Above left: White-breasted nuthatch

CRAIG AND LIZ LARCOM
Above middle: Marsh wren on cattails

BEV KIRSCH
Above right: House wren

CARLTON LARSON
Above: American bison in Yellowstone National Park

STEVE MITCHELL
Opposite: Goose Island from West Shore State Park on Flathead Lake

DENVER BRYAN
Opposite: Bighorn ewe and ram

RON HOFF
Above: Bighorn rams

TED CHASE
Left: Bighorn rams feeding

VICTOR SCHENDEL
Top: Spawning brook trout

BRIAN AND JENNY GROSSENBACHER
Above: Rainbow trout eye

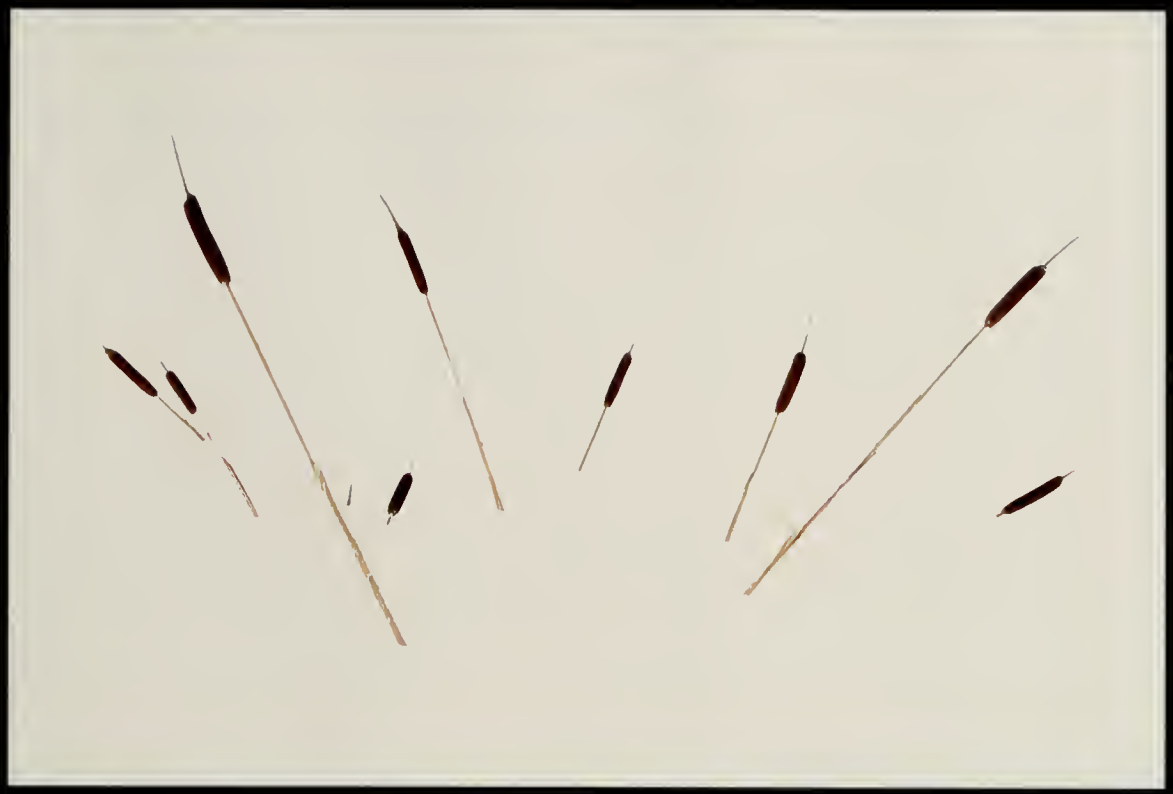
BILL BUCKLEY
Opposite: Released brown trout

STEVEN AKRE
Top left: Water reflection

SHANNA MAE SWANSON
Top right: Ice formations

RON BOGGS
Bottom left: Aspen trunk

ALAN B. SYKES
Bottom right: Charred tree trunk



JOHN JURACEK
Top Cattails in snow

DANIEL J. COX
Above Wildflowers and grasses in shallow pond

TRISH McCOY
Upper left: Sunset over Bridger Range near Bozeman

CHRIS BOYER
Upper right: Big Wall near Roundup

JAMIE YOUNG
Left: Cottonwood and fall colors near Ennis

KELLY GORHAM
Above: Bull elk

KEVIN HANLY
Below: Elk calf

CHUCK HANEY
Snow geese over Freezout Lake Wildlife Management Area near Choteau

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